

Washington County's Citizen Boards & Commissions



Any successful, responsive government must provide an opportunity for meaningful participation by all of its citizens. Washington County is committed to broad community engagement and offers several appointed boards, committees and commissions which allow citizens to participate in the decision-making process. The members of these boards and commissions have the essential role of advising the elected Board of Commissioners on such topics as service priorities, resource distribution, and effective collaboration with other community partners. If you feel led to volunteer your time, talents and experience to assist your community, this may be the opportunity you have been looking for!

The Board of Commissioners receives input from more than 25 boards and commissions to advise them on critical community issues. From the Behavioral Health Council to the Fairgrounds Advisory Committee to the Solid Waste Advisory Council, each one has a unique and important function. (For a full listing of all the opportunities to serve, please click [here](#).)

The time required varies. Some boards and commissions meet monthly, others meet less frequently. In general, volunteers should plan for at least a couple of hours each month.

To apply for a position on a board, committee, or commission, you may access an [online form](#), or obtain a paper application from the County Administrative Office (see contact information below).

The appointment process can take a few weeks to a few months:

1. **Recruitment** – The Board of Commissioners announces vacancies and authorizes a six-week recruitment period. Vacancies occur due to term expirations or resignations. Because term expirations vary, vacancies are often announced several times per year.
2. **Application Submittal** – An interested individual can submit just one application and apply for multiple vacancies. There is a place on the form to list all the boards or commissions that you wish to be considered for. You may also apply for a board or commission that does not have a current vacancy. In that case, your application will be considered if and when a vacancy occurs. Applications remain on file and active for one year from the date of submission.
3. **Application Review** – The Board of Commissioners reviews the applications once the recruitment is closed.
4. **Appointment** – The Board of Commissioners typically makes appointments within two weeks of review. They may also decide to delay making an appointment in order to seek additional applicants.
5. **Notification** – The successful applicant is notified with a letter from the Board of Commissioners.



For general questions about the appointment process or how to apply, please contact the County Administrative Office at cao@co.washington.or.us or at 503-846-8685. [Click here to visit the Boards and Commissions web page.](#)